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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for ~~installing software~~ recovering device drivers in a user's computer ~~which is customized according to a user's order and is supplied to a user under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme~~, the method comprising:

storing information of a plurality of hardware components, which are selectively used to assemble a user's computer system, and a plurality of device drivers required for operation of each of the plurality of hardware components and associated with the plurality of hardware components;

providing the user's computer system with hardware components and device drivers required for operation of each of the hardware components according to a user's order under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme;

storing identification information of the user's computer system and first system configuration information, associated with the identification information, indicating the hardware components of the user's computer system;

~~storing software components required for operation of each of the hardware components;~~

accepting from the user's computer system a first download request including the identification information of the user's computer system and second system configuration

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information collected by the user's computer system ~~indicating~~ in order to indicate hardware

components of the user's computer system;

identifying latest versions of the device drivers required for operation of each of the

hardware components of the user's computer system based on both the stored first system

configuration information associated with the accepted identification information and the

accepted second configuration information;

creating a download list according to the identified latest versions of the device

drivers;

sending [[,]] the created download list to the user's computer system~~;, the software~~

~~components required for operation of the hardware components of the user's computer system~~

~~that are determined from both the stored first system configuration information associated~~

~~with the accepted identification information and the accepted second system configuration~~

~~information; and~~

sending each of the latest versions of the device drivers to the user's computer system

in response to a second download request sent from the user's computer system according to

the download list; and

managing the first system configuration information so as to update the first system

configuration information with the second system configuration information.

2.   (Currently Amended) The ~~software installation~~ device driver recovery method

according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

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managing, for an individual user, a fee for the ~~software~~ device driver sent to the user's

computer system; and

collecting the fee from the user.

3.   (CurrentlyAmended) A system for ~~installing software~~ recovering device drivers in a

user's computer ~~which is customized according to a user's order and is supplied to a user~~

~~under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme,~~ comprising:

a first database for storing information of a plurality of hardware components, which

are selectively used to assemble a user's computer system, and a plurality of device drivers

required for operation of each of the plurality of hardware components and associated with

the plurality of hardware components ~~software components required for operation of~~

~~hardware components of a computer system~~;

providing the user's computer system with hardware components and device drivers

required for operation of each of the hardware components according to a user's order under a

built-to-order (BTO) scheme;

a second database for storing identification information for identifying a user's

computer system ~~supplied to a user~~, and first system configuration information associated

with the identification information indicating hardware components of the user's computer

system;

accepting means for accepting from the user's computer system a first download

request including the identification information given to the user's computer system and

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second system configuration information collected by the user's computer system ~~indicating~~

in order to indicate hardware components of the user's computer system;

first determining means for determining system configuration information which

corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second database;

second determining means for determining <u>a latest version of the</u> the ~~software~~

~~components~~ <u>device drivers</u> required for operation of the hardware components indicated both

in the first system configuration information and in the accepted second system configuration

information, with reference to the first database;

<u>means for creating a download list according to the determined latest version of the</u>

<u>device drivers;</u>

sending means for sending <u>the created download list of</u> the ~~determined software~~

~~components~~ <u>device drivers</u> to the user's computer system; ~~and~~

<u>sending means for sending each of the latest version of the device drivers to the user's</u>

<u>computer system in response to a second download request sent from the user's computer</u>

<u>system according to the download list; and</u>

managing means for managing the first system configuration information stored in the

second database so as to update the first system configuration information with the second

system configuration information.

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4.   (Currently Amended) A method for ~~installing software~~ recovering device drivers in a

user's computer ~~which is customized according to a user's order and is supplied to a user~~

~~under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme~~, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first computer system with hardware components and device drivers

required for operation of each of the hardware components according to a user's order under a

built-to-order (BTO) scheme;

sending a first download request including identification information identifying a

first computer system and second system configuration information collected by the first

computer system ~~indicating~~ in order to indicate hardware components of the first computer

system to a second computer system;

accepting a download list from the second computer identifying the latest version of

the device drivers required for operation of each of the hardware components of the first

computer system;

sending a second download request to the second computer system;

accepting, in response to the above step, at least one software component required for

operation of at least one hardware component of the first computer system, which is indicated

in both the first system configuration information stored in the second computer which

corresponds to the identification information sent from the first computer system and the

second system configuration information sent by said first computer system;

~~conducting~~ conducting setup processing in order to make the at least one software

component accepted in the accepting step into an executable state in the first computer; and

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managing the first system configuration information stored in the second computer so

as to update the first system configuration information with the second system configuration

information.

5.   (Currently Amended) The ~~software installation~~ device driver recovery method

according to claim 4, wherein the first computer system reads and executes a specified

installation software which is stored in a specified storage medium.

6.   (Currently Amended) The ~~software installation~~ device drive recovery method

according to claim 5, further comprising a step of storing the at least one software component

which the first computer system receives from the second computer system.

7.   (Currently Amended) A storage medium having software stored thereon for ~~making a~~

~~computer system~~ recovering device drivers, by way of executing a function of installing a

specified device driver onto a computer system, which has a memory in which identification

information identifying the computer system is stored, ~~execute a function of installing a~~

~~specified software onto the computer system,~~ wherein,

the software comprises the functions of:

sending a first download request including the identification information and first

system configuration information collected by the computer system ~~indicating~~ in order to

indicate hardware components of the computer system to another computer system;

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accepting a download list from the another computer system;

accepting, following the sending of a second download request the identification
information, at least one software component of the latest version of the device driver
required for operating a hardware component of the computer system sent from the another
computer system and indicated in both second system configuration information stored in the
another computer which corresponds to the identification information sent from the computer
system and the first system configuration information sent by said computer system;

conducting setup processing in order to make the accepted at least one software
component device driver into an executable state; and

managing the second system configuration information stored in the another computer
so as to update the second system configuration information with the first system
configuration information.

8.   (Currently Amended) A An installation recovery system for a client/server system
comprising a first computer system and a second computer system, by which software a
device driver is installed onto the first computer system,

wherein the first computer system comprises:

hardware components and device drivers required for operation of each of the
hardware components according to a user's order under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme;

means for storing identification information for identifying the first computer system;

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means for collecting first system configuration information by the first computer

system ~~indicating~~ in order to indicate hardware components of the first computer system;

means for connecting the first computer system to the second computer system and

for sending a first download request including the identification information and the first

system configuration information to the second computer system, in accordance with

recovery instructions; and

first accepting means for accepting a download list created by the second computer

system identifying a latest version of the device drivers;

means for sending a second download request to the second computer system and ~~first~~

second accepting means for accepting at least one ~~software component~~ device driver sent

from the second computer system in response to the second download request, and

wherein the second computer system ~~comprises~~ includes:

a first database for storing information of ~~software~~ components a plurality of device

drivers required for operation of hardware components of the first computer system;

a second database for storing the identification information for identifying the first

computer system, and second system configuration information indicating the hardware

components of the first computer system;

accepting means for accepting, from the first computer system, a first download

request including the identification information of the first computer system;

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first determining means for determining the second system configuration information

which corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second

database;

second determining means for determining a latest version of the device drivers the

~~software components~~ required for operation of the hardware components of the first computer

system indicated in both the first and second system configuration information, with

reference to the first database;

means for creating a download list according to the identified latest version of the

device drivers;

sending means for sending the download list ~~the determined software components~~ to

the first computer system; ~~and~~

sending means for sending each of the latest version of the device drivers to the first

computer system in response to a second download request sent from the first computer

system according to the download list; and

managing means for managing the second system configuration information stored in

the second database so as to update the second system configuration information with the first

system configuration information.

9-10.   (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~installing software~~ recovering device drivers in a user's computer ~~which is customized according to a user's order and is supplied to a user under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme~~, comprising:

providing the user's computer system with hardware components and device drivers required for operation of each of the hardware components according to a user's order under a built-to-order (BTO) scheme:

a first database for storing first system configuration information indicating hardware components of a user's computer system;

a second database for storing identification information for identifying a user's computer system ~~of a user~~ and the first system configuration information of the user's computer system;

an accepting means for accepting from the user's computer system a first download request including the identification information given to the user's computer system and second system configuration information collected by the user's computer system ~~indicating~~ in order to indicate hardware components of the user's computer system;

first determining means for determining system configuration information which corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second database;

second determining means for determining a latest version of the device drivers ~~the software components~~ corresponding to both the first system configuration information based on the identification information of the user's computer system determined with reference to

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the first database and the second system configuration information collected by the user's

computer system; ~~and~~

    means for creating a download list according to the identified latest version of the

selected device drivers

    sending means for sending the download list ~~determined software components~~ to the

user's computer system; ~~and~~

    sending means for sending each of the latest version of the selected device drivers to

the user's computer system in response to a second download request sent from the user's

computer system according to the download list; and

    managing means for managing the first system configuration information stored in

the second database so as to update the first system configuration information with the second

system configuration information.

12-15 (Cancelled).

16.   (Currently Amended) A device driver recovery ~~An installation~~ system for a

client/server system constituted by a first computer system and a second computer system, by

which ~~software is~~ device drivers are installed onto the first computer system,

    wherein the first computer system comprises:

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providing the first computer system with hardware components and device drivers

required for operation of each of the hardware components according to a user's order under a

built-to-order (BTO) scheme;

means for storing identification information for identifying the first computer system;

means for collecting first system configuration information by the first computer

system indicating hardware components of the first computer system;

means for connecting the first computer system to the second computer system and

for sending a first download request including the identification information and the first

system configuration information to the second computer system, in accordance with

recovery instructions; ~~and~~

first accepting means for accepting a download list created by the second computer

system identifying a latest version of the selected device drivers;

means for sending a second download request to the second computer system and ~~first~~

second accepting means for accepting ~~software~~ a selected device driver sent from the second

computer system, and

wherein the second computer system ~~comprises~~ includes:

a first database for storing information of ~~software components~~ a plurality of device

drivers required for operation of hardware components of the first computer system;

a second database for storing identification information for identifying a computer

system supplied to a user, and second system configuration information associated with the

identification information indicating hardware components of the first computer system;

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accepting means for accepting; from the first computer system, <u>a first download</u>

<u>request including</u> the identification information of the first computer system;

first determining means for determining the second system configuration information

which corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second

database;

second determining means for determining <u>a latest version of the selected device</u>

<u>drivers</u> ~~the software components~~ required for operation of the hardware components indicated

in both the first and second system configuration information, with reference to the first

database;

<u>means for creating a download list according to the identified latest version of the</u>

<u>device drivers;</u>

sending means for sending the <u>download list</u> ~~determined software components~~ to the

first computer system; ~~and~~

<u>sending means for sending each of the latest version of the device drivers to the first</u>

<u>computer system in response to a second download request sent from the first computer</u>

<u>system according to the download list; and</u>

managing means for managing the second system configuration information stored in

the second database so as to update the second system configuration information with the first

system configuration information.

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17.   (Currently Amended) ~~A software installation~~ The device driver recovery method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~software components are device drivers and the~~ hardware components are peripheral devices of the user's computer system.

18.   (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device driver recovery ~~software installation~~ system according to claim 3, wherein the ~~software component is a device driver and the~~ hardware component is a peripheral device of the user's computer system.

19.   (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device driver recovery ~~software installation~~ method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~software component is a device driver and the~~ hardware component is a peripheral device of the first computer system.

20.   (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The storage medium according to claim 7, wherein ~~the software component is a device driver and~~ the hardware component is a peripheral device of the computer system.

21.   (Currently Amended) The device driver recovery ~~An installation~~ system for a client/server system according to claim 8, wherein the ~~software component is a device driver and the~~ hardware component is a peripheral device of the first computer system.

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22.   (Currently Amended) A The device driver recovery software installation system

according to claim 11, wherein the software component device driver is a device driver of a

peripheral device of the user's -computer system.

23.   (Currently Amended) The device driver recovery An installation system for a

client/server system according to claim 16, wherein the software component device driver is a

device driver of a peripheral device of the first computer system.

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